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News Release

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South Carolina Field Office . 1835 Assembly St, Rm 1008 . Columbia, SC 29201 . (803) 765-5333
www.nass.usda.gov

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Contact: Rhonda Brandt, Director (803)765-5333
Jim Johnson, Agricultural Statistician
nass-sc@nass.usda.gov

SOUTH CAROLINA CROP PRODUCTION PROSPECTS MIXED

Based on August 1 conditions, South Carolina's 2008 yield was down from a year ago for corn, while soybeans, cotton, and peanuts were up and tobacco remained the same, according to the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office.

CORN production in 2008 is expected to total 21.5 million bushels, down 42 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre is estimated at 65 bushels. This is down 35 bushels from last year. Acreage for harvest as grain, at 330,000, is down 40,000 from 2007.

SOYBEAN production in 2008 is expected to total 11.8 million bushels, up 46 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre of 24 bushels is up 26 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest, at 490,000, is up 65,000 acres from 2007.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO production as of August 1, is forecast at 45.0 million pounds. This is down 2 percent from last year's production and unchanged from last month. Yield per acre of 2,250 pounds is unchanged last year and from the July forecast. Acreage for harvest, at 20,000, is down 500 acres from 2007.

COTTON production is forecast at 160,000 bales, unchanged from last year. The August 1 yield per acre is expected to average 651 pounds, up 165 pounds from last year. Acreage for harvest, at 118,000, is down 40,000 from 2007. This is the lowest harvested acreage since 1989.

PEANUT production is forecast at 198.4 million pounds, up 14 percent from last year's production. Yield per acre, at 3,200 pounds, is up from 2007. Acreage for harvest, at 62,000 is up 6,000 acres from 2007. This is the highest production on record and highest acres harvested for peanuts since 1943.

UNITED STATES 2008 PRODUCTION AND PERCENT OF PREVIOUS YEAR

Corn	12.3	Bil. Bu	94%	Sorghum	410	Mil. Bu.	81%
Soybeans	2.97	Bil. Bu.	115%	Peanuts	4.49	Bil. Lbs.	120%
Tobacco, F.C.	503.6	Mil. Lbs.	100%	Hay	77	Mil. Tons	99%
Cotton, Upland	13.2	Mil. Bales	72%	Oats	89.9	Mil. Bu.	98%